

Message Text

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FM AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO

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C O N F I D E N T I A L SANTIAGO 0271

FOR ASSISTANT SECRETARY ROGERS

EO 11652: XGDS-1

TAGS: SHUM, PE, CI

SUBJECT: PAROLE PROGRAM: STREAMLINING

REF: A) SANTIAGO 220; B) STATE 7410

1. SUMMARY: IN REVIEWING THE PAROLE PROGRAM WITH RESPONSIBLE OFFICERS, I HAVE NOTED ONE AREA IN WHICH WE COULD TAKE ACTION NOW TO FINISH PROCESSING A SIGNIFICANT NUMBER OF STALLED CASES, WITHOUT UNACCEPTABLY DEGRADING THE THOROUGH SECURITY SCREENING CARRIED ON HERE SINCE THE PROGRAM STARTED. WE WOULD DO THIS BY PUTTING ONE OF THE TWO EXISTING SEPARATE SECURITY REVIEWS WITH GOC AGENCIES ON A POST-CHECK BASIS. UNLESS DEPARTMENT OBJECTS, WE SHALL MAKE THE CHANGE. END SUMMARY.

2. IN ITS FIRST INSTRUCTION ON THE PAROLE PROGRAM (75 STATE 137514), DEPARTMENT PRESCRIBED THAT SECURITY CHECK ON APPLICANTS BE "DETAILED AND RIGOROUS ONE WHICH WILL ESTABLISH THE ALIEN'S ELIGIBILITY TO ENTER THE UNITED STATES UNDER SECTION 212(A)(27)(28) OR (29) OF THE IMMIGRATION AND NATURALIZATION ACT." FOLLOWING THIS GUIDANCE, EMBASSY DETERMINED THAT AFTER INITIAL SCREENING OF ITS OWN FILES, TWO GOC AGENCIES WOULD BE ASKED TO REVIEW APPLICANTS: INTERPOL OFFICE, WHICH HAS ACCESS TO VARIOUS POLICE FILES; AND DIRECTORATE OF NATIONAL INTELLIGENCE (DINA), WHICH MAINTAINS FILES OF POLITICAL SECURITY INFORMATION.

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3. EMBASSY HAS INDICATED IN OTHER TELEGRAMS THAT OUTSIDE SECURITY CHECKS TAKE LONGER THAN ANY OTHER STEP IN PROCESSING. INTERPOL IS FASTER; DINA MAY TAKE AS LONG AS FIVE WEEKS (REFTEL). MOREOVER, DINA THIS MONTH WILL BE OUT OF PAROLE PROGRAM OPERATIONS FOR AT LEAST THREE WEEKS, LEAVING 52 CASES IN SUSPENSE.

4. EMBASSY HAS ANALYZED THE 25 CASES REJECTED ON SECURITY GROUNDS: 23 WERE DENIED AT POST UNDER SECTION 212(A)(28) WITHOUT REFERENCE TO DEPARTMENT; TWO WERE REFERRED TO DEPARTMENT WITH NEGATIVE RECOMMENDATION, IN WHICH DEPARTMENT CONCURRED. OF THESE 25 REFUSALS, 12 WERE BASED ON APPLICANTS' STATEMENTS TO US; 11 ON INFORMATION RECEIVED FROM INTERPOL; ONE ON OUR INTERNAL FILES; AND ONLY ONE ON INFORMATION RECEIVED FROM DINA.

5. SINCE DINA INFORMATION HAS ADDED SO LITTLE, WHILE HOLDING UP SUBSEQUENT PROCESSING OF CASES FOR WEEKS, I HAVE DECIDED TO PUT THE DINA CONTRIBUTION ON A POST-CHECK BASIS. UNLESS DEPARTMENT OBJECTS, CASES WILL BE PROCESSED NORMALLY ONCE INTERNAL AND INTERPOL CHECKS HAVE BEEN COMPLETED, AND RECOMMENDATIONS WILL THEREUPON BE MADE TO WASHINGTON. CASES WILL BE REVIEWED AS SOON AS DINA INFORMATION IS RECEIVED; NORMALLY, THIS WOULD TAKE PLACE BEFORE OTHER ASPECTS OF PAROLE PROCESSING HAD BEEN CONCLUDED. IF CHANGE IN RECOMMENDATION RESULTS, DEPARTMENT WILL BE INFORMED. UNDER THIS ARRANGEMENT, THERE IS SOME RISK THAT AN INELIGIBLE OR UNDESIRABLE ALIEN COULD ENTER US ON PAROLE, BUT I BELIEVE THE RISK TO BE VERY SMALL AND AM PREPARED TO TAKE IT IN ORDER TO MOVE THE PROGRAM ALONG.

6. CONSULAR AND INS OFFICERS WILL NOW PROCESS 52 CASES HELD PENDING DINA INFORMATION, AND THE 40 AWAITING INS OFFICER'S SOLE RECOMMENDATION (HELD UP DUE TO ABSENCE OF AN INS OFFICER HERE), AS QUICKLY AS THEY CAN. WE CAN EXPECT A NUMBER OF NEGATIVE DECISIONS OR RECOMMENDATIONS, BUT ALSO A SIGNIFICANT INCREMENT OF CASES SUBMITTED TO WASHINGTON FOR CONSIDERATION.

7. SUDDEN ADDITION OF THESE CASES TO OUR PROCESSING WORKLOAD WILL OVERBURDEN THE STAFF AND MAY REQUIRE TEMPORARY SHIFT OF A PROGRAM SECRETARY FROM REGULAR DUTIES IN EMBASSY.
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8. EMBASSY WILL REVIEW SPECIFIC CASES MENTIONED IN STATE 7410 AS SOON AS OFFICER CAN GET TO THEM, AND WILL STRENGTHEN COORDINATION ROLE OF POLITICAL SECTION IN RECOMMENDATIONS.

9. I AWAIT YOUR EARLIEST RESPONSE TO FOREGOING.
POPPER

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